

REMARKS


New claim 31 is hereby being resubmitted in the manner set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.520(d) for consideration in conjunction with the communication previously mailed on October 24, 2001.

In light of the above amendment and previously submitted remarks, Applicants earnestly believe that the pending claims are directed to patentable subject matter. Reconsideration and an early allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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